

ADDITIONAL RECORDS OF HAWK MOTHS AND BUTTERFLIES (LEPIDOPTERA) FROM LIZARD ISLAND, NORTHERN QUEENSLAND

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Abstract

Additional records are provided for two species of hawk moths and six species of butterflies from Lizard Island, northern Queensland. Notes on abundance are included.

Introduction

Prior to 2004, only two species of hawk moths and eleven species of butterflies had been recorded from Lizard Island (Moulds 1985, Duckworth and McLean 1986). Since then, Lachlan (2004, 2006) has recorded a further 19 species of hawk moths and 21 species of butterflies.

From 2-13 April 2007, the author carried out a third survey of Lizard Island. It followed a better than average wet season but, once again, continuous strong winds restricted the survey. This was particularly so in the more exposed areas of the island. Thus, collecting was primarily confined to the forested areas around the Australian Museum Research Station.

Voucher specimens are temporarily in the author's collection; duplicates are held by the Queensland Museum, Brisbane and the Australian Museum, Sydney.

Discussion

Table 1 details the newly recorded species. Nearly all the butterfly species previously recorded were netted, identified and released at various times during the latest survey. Two notable exceptions were *Petrelaea tombugensis* (Röber) and *Belenois java teutonia* (Fabricius), neither of which was seen. Other lycaenid species recorded for the first time during the 2005 survey, including *Nacaduba berenice berenice* (Herrich-Schäffer), *Jamides phaseli* (Matthew) and *Theclinessthes miskini eucalypti* Sibatani & Grund, were much more common during this latest survey. It is interesting to note that all six newly recorded species are common species and it is surprising that most, if not all, were not encountered previously.

Once again, the overall abundance of hawk moths, in terms of both the number of species and the actual number of individual specimens coming to light traps, was well down compared with the first survey carried out in early December 2002 (Lachlan 2004).

Twenty-three species of hawk moths (approximately one third of the total Australian mainland species) and 38 butterfly species have now been recorded from Lizard Island.

Table 1. List of hawk moths and butterflies collected or sighted on Lizard Island during the April 2007 survey, additional to those recorded by Lachlan (2004, 2006). All are new species records for the island.

Species	Notes
HAWK MOTHS	
Sphingidae	
<i>Daphnis placida placida</i> (Walker)	One male, two females
<i>Acosmeryx anceus anceus</i> (Stoll)	Four males
BUTTERFLIES	
Papilionidae	
<i>Graphium agamemnon ligatum</i> (Rothschild)	Not common
Nymphalidae	
<i>Cupha prosope prosope</i> (Fabricius)	Three clearly sighted; none taken
<i>Hypolimnas alimena lamina</i> Fruhstorfer	Three males
<i>Euploea darchia niveata</i> (Butler)	One male; two others sighted
Lycaenidae	
<i>Zizeeria karsandra</i> (Moore)	One male, one female. Not common
<i>Zizina labradus labradus</i> (Godart)	One male, two females. Uncommon

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